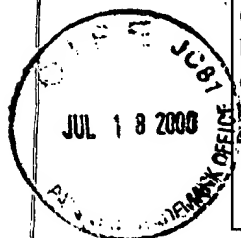


S/N 09/538,338

3/B
B. Webb
PATENT 8/22/00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	BENNER	Examiner:	UNKNOWN
Serial No.:	09/538,338	Group Art Unit:	1623
Filed:	MARCH 29, 2000	Docket No.:	13238.9USC1
Title:	PRECURSORS FOR DEOXYRIBONUCLEOTIDES CONTAINING NON-STANDARD NUCLEOSIDES		



CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on July 10, 2000.

By: Teresa Morgan
Name: Teresa Morgan

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to substantive examination of the above-identified U.S. Patent Application, Applicant respectfully requests entry of the following amendments.

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IN THE SPECIFICATION

1. At page 1, under the heading "Cross Reference To Related Applications" please make the following amendments: after "October 12, 1995," please insert --now U.S. Patent No. 6,037,120--; after "January 17, 1995," please insert --now U.S. Patent No. 6,001,983-- and replace "which application" with --which--.
2. At page 3, line 13, after "bases.", please insert --Additionally, radiolabeled nucleotide bases can be included in an oligonucleotide, for example, ³H or ³²P labeled nucleotide bases.--.
3. At page 5, line 27, after "base pairs).", please insert --The invention also provides a process which includes incubating an oligonucleotide template containing one or more non-standard bases with either a DNA or RNA polymerase in the presence of triphosphates of the complementary nucleotides.--.